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MEMO ENDORSED

September 24, 2007

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

The Honorable Richard M. Berman United States District Judge United States District Court for the Southern Dist Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthou 500 Pearl Street, Room 650 New York, New York 10007-1312 (212) 805-6715

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Date: 9	25/07 1	rehard 1	RARMAN IISDI
	R	ichard M. Be	rman, U.S.D.J.

Re: Seaton Insurance Co., et al. v. Cavell USA, Inc., et al. Case No. 1:07-CV-07
(RMB)

Dear Judge Berman:

We represent defendants Cavell USA Inc. f/k/a Ken Randall America, Inc. f/k/a Eastgate, Inc. ("Cavell US") and Ken Randall, individually ("Randall"), and write to request a pre-motion conference in accordance with Rule 2(A) of your individual practices.

Essential Factual Background: In March 1999 and September 2000, respectively, Cavell US (then known as Eastgate Inc.) entered into an Agreement Relating to Administration of Run-Off Business (the "Administration Agreements") with Seaton Insurance Company and Stonewall Insurance Company (collectively, the "Companies"), which had been acquired by Dukes Place Holdings LP ("Dukes Place"). See Complaint, at Exs. 1, 2. In connection with the run-off, the Companies purchased reinsurance coverage (the "Reinsurance Agreements") from National Indemnity Company ("NICO"). Id. at ¶13, 25. Thereafter, Cavell US entered into an agreement with NICO (the

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¹ Insurance companies that are no longer issuing new policies, but rather merely administering and paying claims on policies already issued, are referred to as being "in run-off." Cavell US provides run-off services to such companies and their owners.

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"Collaboration Agreement"), pursuant to which certain claims administration functions related to the

Companies run-off were delegated to NICO. See Complaint, at Ex. 3.

Cavell US provided run-off services to the Companies until 2006, when Cavell US and

Randall, among others, entered into a commercial disengagement with the Companies and Dukes Place

pursuant to a document described as the "Term Sheet." As stated in the first paragraph of that

agreement, the purpose of the Term Sheet was to govern "the orderly termination of the contractual

and other commercial relationships amongst them," including the Administration Agreements. See

Complaint, at Ex. 4. Under the Term Sheet, the Companies agreed to release and discharge Cavell US

and Randall of all claims and demands arising out of their commercial relations (including the

Administration Agreements), except in the case of fraud. Id. at ¶13. The Term Sheet contains a

mandatory forum selection clause, which provides that it "shall be governed by and construed in

accordance with English law and the parties submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts."

Id. at ¶29.

Anticipated Motions to Dismiss: We request permission to file a motion to dismiss the

Complaint based upon several grounds set forth by Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

First, the Complaint should be dismissed for improper venue pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P.

12(b)(3). The introductory paragraph of the Term Sheet establishes its broad ambit and provides that it

encompasses all contractual agreements between the parties, including the Administration Agreements.

Thus, pursuant to the unambiguous forum selection clause in the Term Sheet, an English court must

resolve any and all disputes between Cavell US or Randall and the Companies. Alternatively, the

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court should decline subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(1), as a means of

enforcing the forum selection clause.

Next, although the Complaint is vaguely drafted, the Companies' causes of action against

Cavell US and Randall are based upon Cavell's cession of certain claims functions to NICO. However,

the Administration Agreements expressly provide that Cavell US "shall have the authority to delegate

to any person such functions it deems necessary for the performance of its obligations under this

Agreement." See Complaint, at Exs. 1, 2 at ¶8.1 (emphasis added). Similarly, Paragraph 2.3 of the

Seaton Administration Agreement expressly references NICO's involvement in claims administration.

Id. at Ex. 2, at \(\graphi 2.3 \). Thus, the Companies' cannot assert any cognizable action for fraud, as Cavell US

and Randall's sub-delegation of claims-related functions to NICO was expressly agreed to and allowed

by the Companies.

Moreover, the Companies were aware that, at the time they entered into the Administration

Agreements, they had already delegated certain claims administration powers to NICO under the

Reinsurance Agreements, including the process of pre-funding claims. As such, and for the reasons set

forth above, the Complaint should be dismissed pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6).

Respectfully submitted, Vincent J. Vithursky
Vincent J. Vithowsky

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